

***Remarks***

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 96 - 143 and 145 - 177 are pending in the application, with 96, 111, 124, 136, 146, 154, 164, and 172 being the independent claims. Claims 96-99, 101, 104, 105, 111-115, 117-119, 121, 122, 124, 125, 136-138, 140, 142, 146, 147, 149, 150, and 152-155 are sought to be amended without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. Claim 122 is currently amended to correct a minor typographical error. New claims 164-177 are sought to be added. Non-existent claim 144 has been canceled in accordance with the Examiner's requirement in the outstanding Office Action. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Applicants incorporate by reference the arguments presented in the previous responses filed July 16, 2007 and September 26, 2007, respectively.

Based on the above amendments and the arguments set forth in the previous responses, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

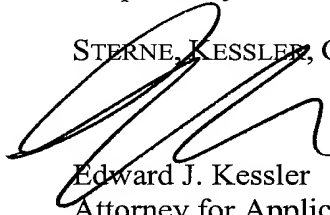
***Conclusion***

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. J. Kessler', is written over the printed name and title.

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